

Message Text

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TO USMISSION OECD PARIS

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C O N F I D E N T I A L OSLO 0990

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ELAB, OECD, NO

SUBJ: BIOGRAPHIC SKETCH ON NORWEGIAN LABOR MINISTER LEIF AUNE

REF: OECD PARIS 5058

1. LEIF AUNE, MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND LABOR, WAS BORN JUNE 7, 1925, IN BODO, CAPITAL OF NORDLAND PROVINCE IN NORTH NORWAY. A PROFESSIONAL ECONOMIST, HE HAS COMBINED AN ACTIVE LABOR PARTY POLITICAL CAREER WITH AN OUTSTANDING CIVIL SERVICE CAREER IN LOCAL GOVERNMENT, FINANCE AND REGIONAL PLANNING IN NORTH NORWAY. HE CAPPED HIS REGIONAL CAREER IN NORTH NORWAY FIRST AS THE REGIONAL CHIEF AND NATIONAL DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF THE "DISTRICT DEVELOPMENT FUND", THE ENGINE FOR REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT IN NORWAY, AND THEN AS "FINANCIAL ADVISER" (CITY MANAGER) OF NORTH NORWAY'S MAIN CITY, TRONSO. HE WAS CALLED AWAY FROM THAT JOB (ON LEAVE OF ABSENCE) TO BE UNDER SECRETARY OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND LABOR MINISTRY IN THE 1971-72 LABOR GOVERNMENT AND AGAIN TO BE MINISTER WHEN LABOR CAME BACK TO POWER IN 1973. HE CONTINUED IN THE SAME POSITION AFTER THE INTERNAL LABOR PARTY CABINET SHIFT IN JANUARY 1976, WHEN ODVAR NORDLI REPLACED TRYGVE BRATTELI AS PRIME MINISTER.

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2. AUNE IS AN ACTIVE MAN, WHO SPEAKS ENGLISH WELL;
HE IS A SHREWD, ENERGETIC, THOROUGHLY POLITICAL MAN.
SHORT, BLOND AND LIVELY, HE HAS AN EASY SMILE AND
RELAXED MANNER. HE HAS WIDESPREAD, VALUABLE CONNECTIONS
IN THE LABOR PARTY AND IS HIGHLY REGARDED BY THE
PARTY LEADERSHIP. HIGH LABOR PARTY AND TRADE UNION
(LO) OFFICIALS CONSIDER AUNE VERY ABLE AND RELIABLE;
HE IS ONE OF THE BEST ADMINISTRATORS IN THE CABINET.
HE IS ACCESSIBLE, COOPERATIVE AND FRIENDLY VIS-A-VIS
THE EMBASSY.

2. WE BELIEVE USOECD ALREADY HAS AMPLE BIOGRAPHIC
INFORMATION ON AMBASSADOR KRISTIANSEN.
BYRNE

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NNN

Message Attributes

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